

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



Alamosa/Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Complex
9383 El Rancho Lane • Alamosa, CO 81101
Phone (719) 589-4021 • Fax (719) 587-0595

July 6, 2004

Dear Prospective Waterfowl Hunters,

Although southern Colorado remains with below average precipitation, water conditions on Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge have improved from 2003.

On Alamosa NWR anticipate adequate to good water in the southern parking areas (3, 4 and 5) throughout the fall and winter. Areas surrounding Parking Areas 1 and 2 will remain dry, as we plan to bum these areas this winter. **DO NOT APPLY FOR PARKING AREAS 1 & 2.**

On Monte Vista NWR, Parking Areas 1 and 2 should have the most normal water. Parker Pond (Parking Areas 4 & 5) will be dry until late summer to accommodate a prescribed fire this winter. Water from accessed from Parking Area 6 has not rebounded from drought conditions in the past 2 years. Hunting from Parking Area 5 will be to the west, with a little over a mile walk to water. **DO NOT APPLY FOR HUNTING FROM PARKING AREAS 6 & 4.**

Both Refuges will have adequate water in closed areas, mostly to accommodate roosting cranes, but this will also serve as refuge for waterfowl.

The number of permits awarded for the first two weekends of the first hunting split of 2004 will be almost identical to 2003. Waterfowl hunting applications must be received by **Tuesday September 2, 2004** to be eligible for the 2004 draw. Permits will be issued in the following week.

If you have questions please contact the Alamosa/Monte Vista Office at (719) 589-4021

Sincerely,

Kristen Gilbert
Outdoor Recreation Planner